

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 141539

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTION IN TEXT IN SUBJECT,
PARAS 1 AND 2)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, TQ

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS' GREETINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF
THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PASS STATUS LNO

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THE GREETINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FROM AMBASSADOR F. HAYDN WILLIAMS,
THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, ON THE RESULTS OF THE
PLEBISCITE IN THE NORTHERN MARIANAS:

I AM NATURALLY PLEASED THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS HAVE IN A FREE EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHT OF
SELF-DETERMINATION VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY IN FAVOR OF THE
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PAGE 02 STATE 141539

COMMONWEALTH COVENANT AND POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED

STATES. THIS STRONG POPULAR EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION AND THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE MUST BE MOST GRATIFYING TO THOSE IN THE MARIANAS WHO HAVE LABORED LONG AND HARD FOR A NEW POLITICAL STATUS FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. I SEND TO THEM MY CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

THOSE OF US ON THE AMERICAN SIDE WHO HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF

PARTICIPATING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE SIGNING OF THE COVENANT ALSO TAKE PLEASURE IN KNOWING THAT OUR EFFORTS COMBINED WITH THOSE OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION HAVE STOOD THE TEST OF PUBLIC EXAMINATION AND DEBATE AND THE FREE BALLOT BOX. WITH REGARD TO THE LATTER, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE PLEBISCITE COMMISSIONER, MR. ERWIN CANHAM, AND HIS STAFF FOR THE ESSENTIAL ROLE THEY PLAYED IN THE BASIC PLANNING AND ADMINISTERING OF THE PLEBISCITE AND FOR THE WISDOM, UNDERSTANDING AND INTEGRITY THEY BROUGHT TO BEAR ON THIS PROCESS.

MOST OF ALL, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS FOR ALL THE COURTESIES AND KINDNESSES THEY HAVE SHOWN ME AND THE MEMBERS OF MY DELEGATION DURING EVERY PHASE OF THE STATUS TALKS AND ON MANY PUBLIC OCCASIONS. I WISH ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS SUCCESS AS THEY NOW JOIN IN COMMON TASKS FOR THE COMMON GOOD, TASKS DESIGNED TO FURTHER THE WELL BEING OF ALL OF THE CITIZENS OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS AS THEY PLAN FOR THE YEARS AHEAD.
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